

**RESOLUTION NO.** 2009-7-101

**WHEREAS**, in June, 2008, the State of Iowa, Linn County, and the City of Cedar Rapids experienced flooding of a magnitude heretofore not seen in this State, and

**WHEREAS**, the extent of said flooding exceeded that of a five hundred (500) year flood in the City of Cedar Rapids resulting in more than nine (9) square miles and thirteen hundred (1,300) city blocks in and around downtown Cedar Rapids being flooded by water several feet deep, and

**WHEREAS**, county government infrastructure of Linn County suffered devastating damage in said flood with nine (9) county owned buildings housing Linn County governmental services, ranging from law enforcement and corrections to mental health and developmental disability services to Linn County residents, and representing more than ninety-five percent (95%) of the square footage utilized by Linn County in providing county government services having one (1) or more floors and building electrical, mechanical and communications systems submerged to a depth of several feet, and

**WHEREAS**, included in the Linn County facilities damaged was the Linn County Courthouse, the sub-basement of which was completely flooded and the first floor flooded to within a foot of the ceiling, and

**WHEREAS**, housed on the first floor of the Linn County Courthouse and destroyed was nearly the entire Linn County juvenile court system, including juvenile court courtrooms, juvenile court judge's chambers, juvenile court staff offices, juvenile

court clerk of court offices and file storage, and offices and file storage of the juvenile division of the Linn County Attorney's Office, and

**WHEREAS**, mitigation efforts for possible future flooding dictate that the aforementioned juvenile court functions must be located outside the Linn County Courthouse, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, is required pursuant to Section 602.1303, Code of Iowa, to provide suitable physical facilities for the operation of the district court, in and for Linn County, Iowa, including the aforementioned juvenile court functions and the Linn County Juvenile Court Services Office, and

**WHEREAS**, another Linn County facility, the Witwer Building, which housed the Linn County Juvenile Court Services Office suffered flooding and destruction of its basement and first floor, and

**WHEREAS**, the Witwer Building being approximately one hundred twenty (120) years old, the Linn County Board of Supervisors has determined not to reoccupy the building thereby necessitating the relocation of the Linn County Juvenile Court Services Office, and

**WHEREAS**, the Linn County Board of Supervisors has appointed a committee to study and make recommendation to the board of supervisors for relocating the Linn County juvenile court and county attorney functions previously located in the Linn County Courthouse and co-locating same with the Linn County Juvenile Court Services Office previously located in the Witwer Building, and

**WHEREAS,** the aforementioned study committee has recommended the construction of a juvenile court facility of approximately eighteen thousand (18,000) square feet on real property owned by Linn County in the eight hundred (800) block of Second Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, near the Linn County Administrative Office Building and Linn County Election Depot, both of which sustained flood damage and are in the process of being reoccupied, and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed construction of a new juvenile court facility in the eight hundred (800) block of Second Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, will have numerous beneficial effects, just some of which are:

1. Revitalization of an urban-renewal district in downtown Cedar Rapids;
2. Co-location of the Linn County Juvenile Court Services Office with the other Linn County juvenile court and Linn County attorney juvenile functions previously located in the Linn County Courthouse;
3. Location of the juvenile court facility at a site centrally located a short distance from the Linn County Courthouse and convenient to both public and private forms of transportation;
4. Construction of a new energy efficient building resulting in reduced costs of operation; and
5. The proposed site is outside of the five hundred (500) year flood plain and will be designed to be protected from reoccurrence of flooding greater than the magnitude of the 2008 flood.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, this date met in lawful session that pursuant to Senate File 376, Linn County, Iowa, hereby submits an application to the Iowa Jobs Board for financial assistance for a Local Infrastructure Competitive Grant for the purpose of

constructing a Linn County juvenile court facility of approximately eighteen thousand (18,000) square feet on real property owned by Linn County located in the eight hundred (800) block of Second Street SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that it is respectfully submitted the residents of Linn County and the State of Iowa would benefit, as described above and as set forth in detail in the application authorized by this Resolution, from the construction of such a juvenile court facility:

Dated at Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa, this 29 day of

July, 2009.

AYE: 4

NAY: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

LINN COUNTY, IOWA

[Signature]  
CHAIRPERSON

[Signature]  
Supervisor

[Signature]  
Supervisor

[Signature]  
Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
JOEL D. MILLER, County Auditor &  
Secretary for the Board of Supervisors

[Signature]  
Deputy

STATE OF IOWA                    )  
  )     SS  
COUNTY OF LINN                )

I, Joel D. Miller, County Auditor of Linn County, Iowa, and Secretary for the Board of Supervisors, Linn County, Iowa, hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the said Board, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 4 aye, 0 nay and 0 abstained from voting.

Joel D. Miller by Robert J. Shoop, Rep.  
JOEL D. MILLER

July, 2009. Subscribed and sworn to before me by the aforesaid on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of

Barbara J. Schmitz  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF IOWA

RESOLUTION NO. 0735-07-09

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS FROM THE CEDAR RAPIDS/LINN COUNTY  
COMMUNITY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE I-JOBS LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS Local Infrastructure Competitive Grant program was adopted by the State of Iowa Legislature to provide infrastructure investment funding to mitigate disaster recovery from the Flood of 2008, and to provide for employment while stimulating and promoting long term economic growth, and

WHEREAS, the I-JOBS program will provide \$118.5 million to be distributed in competitive grants available for reconstruction of local public buildings and flood control prevention in communities from devastation of the Flood of 2008 throughout the state of Iowa, and the Cedar Rapids/Linn County community will be submitting 23 (twenty-three) competitive grant applications for projects to the I-JOBS Grant Program, including:

Linn County – Administrative Office – Rebuild and Energy Efficiency  
Linn County – Juvenile Law Center  
City of Cedar Rapids – Reconstruction of Public Parking Ramps  
City of Cedar Rapids – Parking Access Revenue Control System (PARCS)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Downtown Parking Structure  
City of Cedar Rapids – 3<sup>rd</sup> Street S.E. Streetscape Improvements  
City of Cedar Rapids – Intermodal Transportation Facility (ITF)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Anaerobic Biogas System Improvements  
City of Cedar Rapids – Edgewood Road Reconstruction at Cedar River  
City of Cedar Rapids – 6<sup>th</sup> Street SW Reconstruction  
City of Cedar Rapids – Highway 100  
City of Cedar Rapids – US Cellular Center Improvements & Events Center Construction  
City of Cedar Rapids – Acquisition of Flood-Blighted Downtown Properties  
City of Cedar Rapids – Façade of Improvement Incentive Program (F.A.C.E.)  
City of Cedar Rapids – Multigenerational Community Life Center – PLAY  
City of Cedar Rapids – Joint Communications Network  
City of Cedar Rapids – Cedar Rapids Public Library Main Facility  
City of Cedar Rapids – Demolition and remediation of the buildings located on the 1100 block of 3<sup>rd</sup> St S.E. (formerly Quality Chef)  
Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce – Economic Commerce Center  
African American Heritage Foundation of Iowa – African American Museum  
Legion Arts – Restoration of CSPS Hall  
Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa – JA World  
Indian Creek Nature Center – From Flood to Flowers – Crafting a LEED Nature Center  
Headquarters in the Beauty of Prairie Flowers

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that the above noted projects are hereby endorsed, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA that submission of applications for the City of Cedar Rapids for the above noted projects are hereby authorized.

Passed this 22nd day of July, 2009.

Voting: Council member Podzimek moved the adoption of the resolution; seconded by Council member Wieneke. Adopted, Ayes, Council members Fagan, Gulick, McGrane, Podzimek, Shey, Shields, Vernon, Wieneke and Mayor Halloran.

Attest:

Kay Halloran, Mayor

Ann Ollinger, City Clerk

SUSAN FLAHERTY  
ASSOCIATE JUVENILE JUDGE  
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
STATE OF IOWA

P.O. Box 5488  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
52406

Ph: (319) 398-3920, ext 1178  
Fax: (319) 398-3998  
e-mail: susan.flaherty@iowacourts.gov

July 27, 2009

Mr. Joseph Jones  
Director of Governmental Affairs  
Iowa Finance Authority  
2015 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50312

Dear Mr. Jones and other members of the IJOBS Committee:

The flood that devastated downtown Cedar Rapids and surrounding neighborhoods in June of 2008 left many families, businesses and community agencies without housing. Over the past year, much work has been done to rebuild and, as needed, relocate. One of the many casualties of the flood was the Linn County Juvenile Court. Prior to June 2009, the Linn County Juvenile Court operated from the basement of the Linn County Courthouse. Three courtrooms were used on a daily basis to address issues in our community related to child abuse and neglect, termination of parental rights, adoptions and delinquent behavior. In addition to courtroom space, the juvenile court area included office space for judges, court support staff, the juvenile clerk of court and the Linn County attorney staff assigned to juvenile court. The area also included a small waiting area and a small conference room. Security was provided by the Linn County Sheriff, with the aid of screening devices at each entrance to the courthouse.

Since the flood, the Linn County Juvenile Court has moved to three times, to three different locations. With each move, we have relocated staff, court files, furniture, computer lines and telephone systems. We have created additional burdens on the workload of social work staff, who are officed in downtown Cedar Rapids, by now requiring them to spend time traveling miles instead of blocks to access the Court. We have created logistical issues for the attorneys who are dedicated to maintaining a juvenile court practice but must also attend to matters at the Linn County Courthouse. We have required the families who need to access the Courts to find each new location and also to deal with transportation barriers associated with each location. Security in each temporary facility has been reduced to minimal levels. Due to the temporary nature of each location, we have not been able to provide soundproofing or private meeting areas that allow us to address some very complex, emotional family issues in the confidential and respectful manner each family deserves.

While this past year has been difficult, and none of us working within the Juvenile Court looks forward to yet another move, I think it's safe to say that everyone very much looks forward to a final move to a permanent facility. Additionally, while the loss of our space at the Courthouse was not something any of would have wished for, it has given us an opportunity to think in a visionary way about the kind of facility that would be most functional for the children and families who need to access the Juvenile Court and related services.



The Board of Supervisors has proposed a Juvenile Court/Juvenile Law Center that would allow for not only the traditional court functions, but also provide space to families and child welfare agencies to conference together outside of the court proceedings. Agencies providing services to the families under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court could have space available at the Court facility to meet with clients, to conduct family team meetings or conduct community planning meetings. This new facility would also allow juvenile court officers to be housed in the same facility as the Court. We would be able to provide child friendly waiting rooms and potentially provide room for attorneys to be able to meet privately with their clients. We would be able to address security issues not only by the presence of a deputy, but through design of the facility.

Almost every political body acknowledges the importance of protecting the children in our community. However, when it comes to allocating the resources to provide the services needed to assure that protection, it is often difficult to find the financial support required. Because of the flood, this community now has both the responsibility and the opportunity to develop a facility dedicated to providing justice for our children. With leadership from our elected and appointed officials, I am hopeful that the necessary financial resources will be allocated to provide a Juvenile Court facility that can meet the immediate and future needs of the children in our community. I am hopeful that the IJOBS committee will recognize the critical need for a Juvenile Court facility and be willing to allocate resources to our community to allow us to develop a facility that will be able serve our children and families in need well into the future. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan Flaherty". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Susan Flaherty  
Associate Juvenile Judge  
Sixth Judicial District

**OFFICE OF DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Sixth Judicial District of Iowa**  
***Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Tama Counties***

E-Mail Address:  
carroll.edmondson  
@iowacourts.gov

Linn County Courthouse  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Bridge  
P.O. Box 5488  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

Ph: (319) 398-3920  
Ext. 1100  
Fax: (319) 398-4054

July 15, 2009

Mr. Joseph Jones  
Director of Governmental Affairs  
Iowa Finance Authority  
2015 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50312

RE: I-Job Application for Linn County Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am writing in support of Linn County's grant application to build a juvenile law center and courthouse in Cedar Rapids. As I will describe below, building a new facility for juvenile court functions near the courthouse has several advantages for the court system in this judicial district.

The proposed justice facility will provide courtrooms for Linn County juvenile judges and office space for juvenile judges, court staff assigned to juvenile court, the juvenile division of the county attorney's office and the juvenile probation staff. While all of these personnel were displaced by the June, 2008 flood, they were not all located in the same building before the flood. The juvenile probation officers and their support staff were located at the Witwer Building while the juvenile judges, court staff and the county attorney's staff were located on the first floor of the Linn County Courthouse. The proposed juvenile law center and courthouse would combine all these functions in one building. Combining these functions in one building should facilitate communication among the different components of the juvenile system, enhance public convenience for those using juvenile justice services, and provide more protection against future flooding than if these functions returned to their pre-flood locations.

From the court system's perspective, there is another big advantage that the proposed juvenile facility has for us. Before the flood the courthouse was crowded with no space for adding more courtrooms. Building the new juvenile law center and courthouse will expand the total number of courtrooms available from thirteen to sixteen. It will alleviate the courtroom shortages in the Linn County Courthouse that we were experiencing before the flood as well as provide some future expansion possibilities for juvenile court at the new facility.

Another substantial advantage for the courts is that the new juvenile court facility will facilitate implementation of the court's flood mitigation strategy at the Linn County Courthouse. Before the flood the criminal, traffic and juvenile divisions of the clerk's office were all located on the first floor of the courthouse which sustained the brunt of the flood damage. Consequently, court files maintained by the clerk were severely damaged by the flood. The court has spent over five million dollars to restore flood damaged files from the courthouse and nearby on site storage facility. Only about 25 – 30% of the court records damaged by the flood were restored because of the large expense involved. To help prevent such tremendous losses in future floods, the court has insisted that the county move the clerk's office to a higher floor. This will necessitate substantial renovation of the Linn County Courthouse since some courtrooms on upper levels will be converted to office space and new additional courtrooms on the lower level of the courthouse will need to be built.

In sum, the court system endorses Linn County's grant application for the new juvenile facility and encourages your department to provide the necessary funding for it.

Sincerely,  
*Carroll Edmondson*  
District Court Administrator  
Sixth Judicial District

**JUDY GOLDBERG**  
Attorney at Law  
2930 Q Ave. NW  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405  
(319) 390-3713  
parkergoldberg@mchsi.com

July 9, 2009

Iowa Finance Authority  
Attn: Joseph Jones  
2015 Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, Iowa 50312  
joseph.jones@iowa.gov

RE: Funding for a Permanent Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse

Dear Mr. Jones,

I am writing on behalf of the Linn County Juvenile Law Committee to request funding for a permanent Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse. The Juvenile Law Committee is comprised of more than 70 lawyers, judges and social workers who work in juvenile court in Linn County.

Since the epic flood of last year, our courthouse has been moved three times. We are now operating in a former clothing store at a mall. The facility is small, loud, and lacks the privacy and decorum of a regular courthouse.

Chief Justice Marsha Ternus of the Iowa Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasized that abused and neglected children deserve expert representation and timely rulings. She has also advocated better citizen access to our courts. Neither of these goals can be accomplished at our current temporary location.

The current location is miles from the downtown District Courthouse, where many of our attorneys practice regularly. Our clients often also have domestic or criminal cases, which are heard at the District Courthouse. Before the flood, attorneys and clients could arrange their schedules so that they could attend to district court matters immediately before or after juvenile court hearings. Now they must go to two different courthouses several miles apart. Many experienced attorneys have expressed concern that they may now have to quit their juvenile practices because the time and distance between courthouses is too great. The distance will cause hearing continuances, attorney substitutions and general court delays.

The "Mall of Justice," as it is now cynically called, cannot be the permanent home for the Juvenile Courthouse. It is imperative that funding be obtained to build a facility within close proximity to our current courthouse. The proposed project by Linn County accomplishes this and meets FEMA guidelines on flood mitigation at the District Courthouse.

Sincerely,

Attorney Judy Goldberg, Chairperson of the Juvenile Law Committee, and members of the Committee

*Elaine Kacere*

*Michael M. [Signature]*

*Annette Foege Martin*  
*Deborah M. Skelton*

→

Amy Judds sn11  
DHS

Angela Haisbue

Dawn Wilson

Donell Jo Lloyd  
Hulega

CM

Bebela D. Solis

Molly Cunningham  
Hogues  
Jessica A. W. W.

JK

Pat Sully

Thane MacKoeck

Brandi Wray  
Bob Davis

# LINN COUNTY ATTORNEY

**HAROLD L. DENTON**  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

**2500 Edgewood Road SW**  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
Juvenile/Simple Misdemeanor Division  
July 10, 2009

**Office Manager**  
Diane Albers

*First Assistant*  
Jerry Vander Sanden

*Division Attorneys*  
**Felony**  
Jason D. Besler  
Jason A. Burns  
Nicholas G. Maybanks

**Misdemeanor**  
Heidi Carmer  
Brian D. Claney  
Jennifer Clinton  
Laurie Craig  
William Croghan  
Rena Nerhus  
Nicholas L. Scott  
Elena Wolford

**Juvenile**  
Rebecca A. Belcher  
Lance J. Heeren  
Robert A. Hruska  
Kelly J. Kaufman

**Civil**  
Jeffrey L. Clark  
Gary P. Jarvis  
Todd D. Tripp  
Susan Nehring

**Legal Assistant**  
Christine Curley

*Professional  
Support*

**Investigator**  
James Noonan

**Victim/Witness  
Coordinators**  
Toni Liedtke  
Anastasia Wilson

*Phone Numbers*  
Criminal 319-892-6350  
Simplex 319-892-6335  
Civil 319-892-6340  
Juvenile 319-892-6330  
Criminal Fax  
319-892-6389  
Juvenile/Simple Fax  
319-892-6339

Mr. Joseph Jones  
Director of Government Affairs  
Iowa Finance Authority  
2015 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50312

Re: I – JOBS Funding for New Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse

Dear Mr. Jones:

We are writing on behalf of the Linn County Attorney's Office in order to express our support for the Application for I-JOBS funding for a new Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse.

The flood of June, 2008, demolished the entire Juvenile Court facilities at the Linn County Courthouse - Courtrooms, Judge's chambers, Court reporter's offices, the office of the Juvenile Division of the Linn County Attorney and the offices of the Juvenile Clerk of Court. Since all of the Juvenile Court files were lost, they have had to be reconstructed over the last year using files from private attorneys or the Department of Human Services. Also permanently damaged by the flood were the Juvenile Court Services offices, located in the Witwer building.

In the year since the flood, the Juvenile Court has been moved three times. The current location is in a remodeled department store at Westdale Mall, several miles from the Linn County Courthouse. Such a setting is not conducive to the efficient day to day operation of the Court, nor does it engender the proper respect and decorum necessary to judicial proceedings.

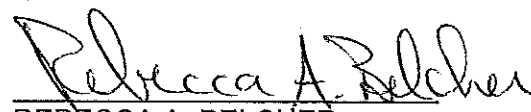
A new and permanent Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse, located within a short distance of the present Linn County Courthouse, would provide the community with a modern facility specifically designed to meet the needs of the children and families of Linn County. Our office would recommend that this facility provide room for Juvenile Court Services as well as the Juvenile Courts, the Clerk of Court and the Juvenile Division of the County Attorney's Office, as well as for meeting space for other agencies who work with the Juvenile Court on a regular basis.

We can all agree that the future of the most vulnerable members of our community, our children, is of paramount importance. A permanent Juvenile Court facility is a necessity to meet the needs of those children.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
HAROLD DENTON  
LINN COUNTY ATTORNEY

  
REBECCA A. BELCHER  
ASSISTANT LINN COUNTY ATTY  
JUVENILE DIVISION

# **The Sixth Judicial District of Iowa**

## **Benton, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn and Tama Counties**

### **JUVENILE COURT SERVICES**

July 15, 2009

Mr. Joseph Jones  
Director of Governmental Affairs  
Iowa Finance Authority  
2015 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50312

RE: I-Job Application for Linn County Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am writing in support of Linn County's grant application to build a juvenile law center and courthouse in Cedar Rapids.

Linn County Juvenile Court Services provides Intake, Probation and Parole services for over 2,500 Linn County youth every year. Officers from Juvenile Court Services meet with youth and their families when a complaint is first received from law enforcement. Officers work with the youth through all phases of the legally prescribed process, sometimes until the youth's case is closed or the youth ages out of the system. Some of our youth and families are volatile. Many of our families are of limited incomes and do not have reliable, independent transportation.

Since the flood in June, 2008, Linn County Juvenile Court Services has been relocated three times. The first six weeks following the flood, JCS spent about 6 weeks with 20 people utilizing one 12 foot by 12 foot room. The room was located at Linn County Detention, approximately 9 miles south of downtown. In addition to the issues those cramped quarters caused staff in completing their legally required duties, the out-of-the-way location caused significant transportation issues for our clients. As an example, one family of limited means that did not have private transportation spent \$50 in taxi cab fares to get back and forth to an appointment with us.

Prior to the flood, Linn County Juvenile Court Services was in crowded quarters. Since the flood, we have grown by three staff, and now need additional space. Juvenile Court Services is in need of quarters that allow staff to meet with youth and families in both a confidential environment and in a secure environment where Officers can safely handle potentially hostile situations.

Juvenile Court Services is also in need of office and classroom space to co-locate with service providers who work with our families. We hope to be able to provide alcohol, drug and mental health evaluation and services from our location. The Cedar Rapids schools would like to co-locate a classroom for our youth with us. Currently lack of space prohibits us from offering those services to youth in the coordinated manner a combined space would permit.

Juvenile Court Officers need quick access to the Court; the Clerk's office; and the Linn County Attorney's office. Co-locating the four offices all under one roof ensures prompt communication among these diverse entities. Co-locating all of our offices under one roof provides the public with easy access to all Linn County Juvenile public entities that work with Courts and children. Co-locating the four offices also provides Juvenile Court Officer's with a more secure environment in which to engage potentially hostile people.

Most importantly, locating JCS at the proposed location should ensure that our facilities do not flood in the future.

Juvenile Court Services endorses Linn County's grant application for the new juvenile facility and encourages your department to provide the necessary funding for it.



Candice Bennett  
Chief Juvenile Court Officer

**LINN/JONES COUNTIES**  
2500 Edgewood Rd SW, Suite D-200  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404

Ph: (319) 398-3545 / 462-4601  
Linn Jones  
FAX: (319) 398-3972

## **Hawkeye Labor Council**

1211 Wiley Blvd. SW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Iowa Finance Authority  
Attn: Joseph Jones  
2015 Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

RE: Funding for a Permanent Juvenile Court & Law Center

Dear Mr. Jones:

We are writing in support of Linn County's I-JOBS application to construct a new Juvenile Law Center & Courthouse on currently owned county property located 801 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW near the current Linn County Courthouse. We believe this proposal, in response to FEMA required flood mitigation rebuilding strategies, will create substantive local construction jobs and new full-time public sector jobs (security/maintenance).

After Linn County's Courthouse was flooded last year, FEMA required Linn County to adopt future flood mitigation strategies that would prevent substantial losses at a newly operational Courthouse on May's Island. Linn County juvenile court functions operated from the basement of the Courthouse and from the Witwer building in downtown Cedar Rapids, which was also flooded. In order to mitigate future flood damage, it has been determined juvenile court functions must relocate from those buildings into new space nearby. After reviewing the needs of Linn County judicial, legal, and non-profit professionals who work within this area of the law, it has been determined that an 18,000 square foot structure near the existing Courthouse (801 3<sup>rd</sup> St. SW) would be optimal for those stakeholders, the clients served by this area of the judicial system and the citizens of Linn County. Just blocks away from both the new Northern District United States Courthouse and the flood mitigated Iowa District Courthouse, the Linn County Juvenile Law Center & Courthouse would be the last piece of the local legal system puzzle to be put into place for the long-term future of the citizens of Linn County.

The construction of a new public facility of this nature, near a flood ravaged and economically depressed area in need of revitalization (an officially recognized Urban Renewal District), would provide much needed economic and social benefits for our community. Over 100 high quality local construction jobs are estimated to be created, many of which our skilled labor members stand ready to provide. It is also worthy to note that new skilled maintenance and law enforcement positions will be created to maintain this new Juvenile Law Center & Courthouse and provide for its security. All of these jobs, public and private, are of the high quality nature that benefits our community for the long-term.

Our local skilled labor member organizations whole-heartedly support this flood recovery endeavor for the long-term economic and social benefits that this project will provide the communities of Linn County and its people.

Scott Smith  
CR/IC Bldg Trades  
IUPAT 447

Bill Hanes  
IBEW L.U. 405

Tom Dytlo  
LIUNA Laborers Local #43

Lurtz R. Wink  
HEAT & FROST Insulators #821

Donald Meppner  
Ironworkers Local #89

Dave Hogan  
CARPENTERS LOCAL 308

Norman A. Scrogger  
SHEET METAL WORKERS #263

Russ Lunderson  
Bricklayer Local 3

James B. Budo  
CEMENT MASONS #21

David R. Henth  
F.U.O.E. 234

Robert W. Lowe  
Roofers Local 182



Jim D. Meade  
Pres  
IAMAW 1546

Wayne Cheney  
Pres AFSCME 620

Todd Taylor  
AFSCME 2012 Council 61

Les Norrby  
Pres Hawkeye Labor Council

**DAVID M. REMLEY, CHIEF JUDGE**

*Sixth Judicial District*

*Linn County Courthouse*

*P.O. Box 5488*

*Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406-5488*

*E-Mail: david.remley@iowacourts.gov*

**CHAMBERS OF  
DAVID M. REMLEY**

*Telephone (319) 398-3920*

*Fax No. (319) 398-4054*

July 16, 2009

Mr. Joseph Jones  
Director of Governmental Affairs  
Iowa Finance Authority  
2015 Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50312

RE: I-Job Application for Linn County Juvenile Law Center and Courthouse

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am writing in support of Linn County's grant application to build a juvenile law center and courthouse in Cedar Rapids. As I will describe below, building a new facility for juvenile court functions near the courthouse has several advantages for the court system in this judicial district.

The proposed justice facility will provide courtrooms for Linn County juvenile judges and office space for juvenile judges, court staff assigned to juvenile court, the juvenile division of the county attorney's office and the juvenile probation staff. While all of these personnel were displaced by the June, 2008 flood, they were not all located in the same building before the flood. The juvenile probation officers and their support staff were located at the Witwer Building while the juvenile judges, court staff and the county attorney's staff were located on the first floor of the Linn County Courthouse. The proposed juvenile law center and courthouse would combine all these functions in one building. Combining these functions in one building should facilitate communication among the different components of the juvenile system, enhance public convenience for those using juvenile justice services, and provide more protection against future flooding than if these functions returned to their pre-flood locations.

From the court system's perspective, there is another big advantage that the proposed juvenile facility has for us. Before the flood the courthouse was crowded with no space for adding more courtrooms. Building the new juvenile law center and courthouse will expand the total number of courtrooms available from thirteen to sixteen. It will alleviate the courtroom

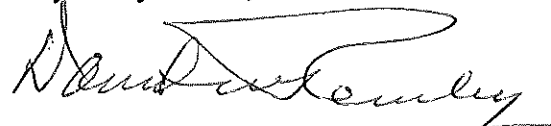
Mr. Joseph Jones  
July 16, 2009  
Page 2

shortages in the Linn County Courthouse that we were experiencing before the flood as well as provide some future expansion possibilities for juvenile court at the new facility.

Another substantial advantage for the courts is that the new juvenile court facility will facilitate implementation of the court's flood mitigation strategy at the Linn County Courthouse. Before the flood the criminal, traffic and juvenile divisions of the clerk's office were all located on the first floor of the courthouse which sustained the brunt of the flood damage. Consequently, court files maintained by the clerk were severely damaged by the flood. The court has spent over five million dollars to restore flood damaged files from the courthouse and nearby on site storage facility. Only about 25 – 30% of the court records damaged by the flood were restored because of the large expense involved. To help prevent such tremendous losses in future floods, the court has insisted that the county move the clerk's office to a higher floor. This will necessitate substantial renovation of the Linn County Courthouse since some courtrooms on upper levels will be converted to office space and new additional courtrooms on the lower level of the courthouse will need to be built.

In sum, the court system endorses Linn County's grant application for the new juvenile facility and encourages your department to provide the necessary funding for it.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Remley", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David M. Remley, Chief Judge  
Sixth Judicial District of Iowa

DMR/cre